FIGURE 2.—View of San Gabriel River at Georgetown, Tex., near crest of flood, April 24, 1957, showing damage to Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad bridge. Photograph by United Press.

FIGURE 3.—View of floodwaters of the Trinity River spread over bottomlands near Crockett, Tex., April 25, 1957. Photograph by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

FIGURE 4.—View of floodwaters of the Brazos River spread over bottomlands at Dennis, Tex., May 1, 1957. Photograph by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

industrial damage was extensive. Most urban damages were caused by comparatively small streams. Many highways, highway bridges, and railroad bridges were damaged or destroyed. A few levees were overtopped or broken, and minor damage to several dams was reported though none was destroyed.

This report contains general discussions of the storms and floods of April–June 1957 and detailed stream flow records of the flood-affected areas for the flood period. Sections on special hydraulic and hydrologic studies include flood-routing and flood-frequency studies for parts of the Brazos and the Colorado River basins in Texas, and rainfall-runoff studies on selected river basins in Texas.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The collection of basic records of stage and discharge in the area described in this report is a part of continuous cooperative programs of the U.S. Geological Survey with the States of Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, and Arkansas and with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, and the Soil Conservation Service. The U.S. Weather Bureau and several State, municipal, and private organizations supplied information included in this report, and acknowledgment of the data is made in the text at the proper place.

inches of rainfall was measured on May 17–18 in the Washita River valley near Lindsay, Okla., an area tributary to the Red River. Figure 8 shows the pattern of rainfall that was recorded over the area during May.

FIGURE 6.—Aerial view of flood damage in residential area of Lampasas, Tex., flood of May 12, 1957. Photograph by United Press.

The heavy rainfall continued through the first week in June; during the remainder of the month, rainfall was scattered, but heavy at times over parts of Texas. In general, the amount of rainfall in June exceeded the long-term average for June in most of central, eastern, and northeastern Texas. Alvin, in Brazoria County, Tex., recorded a total of 13.55 inches for the month. Figure 9 shows the distribution of total rainfall for June across the area.

The total rainfall for the 3-month period over much of the eastern two-thirds of Texas was in excess of that normally recorded during a 12-month period. Figure 10 shows the distribution of the total rainfall recorded over the area covered by this report during the period April 1 to June 30, 1957.

A comprehensive discussion and analysis of the meteorological conditions that produced the heavy rainfall of April to June 1957, a compilation of hydrometeorological data, and a discussion of the use of radar in flood forecasting is contained in U.S. Weather Bureau Technical Paper No. 33, entitled, "Rainfall and Floods of April, May and June 1957 in the South-Central States".

FIGURE 7.—View of flood damage in residential area of Lampasas, Tex., flood of May 12, 1957. Photograph by Texas Department of Public Safety.

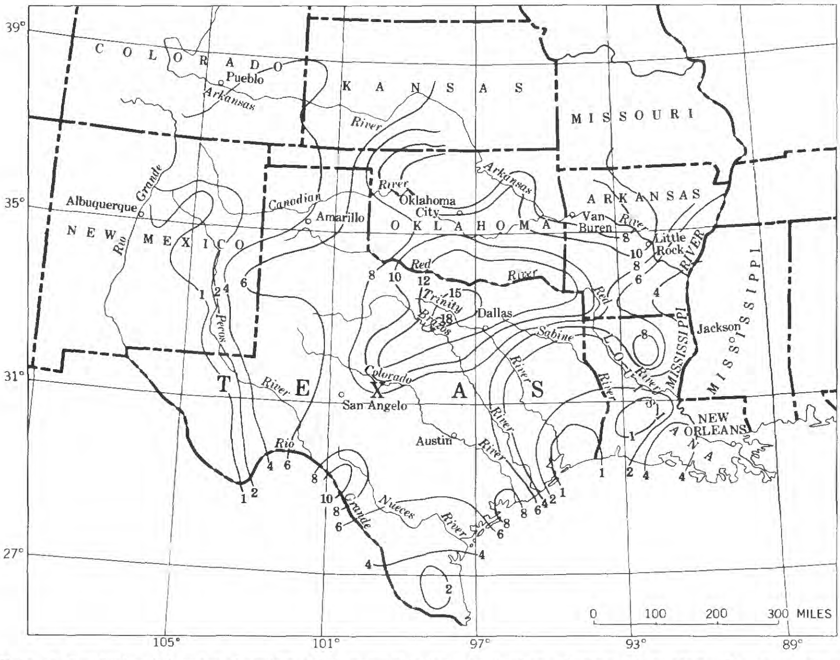

FIGURE 8.—Isohyetal map showing total precipitation, in inches, during May 1957. Prepared from isohyetal map furnished by U.S. Weather Bureau.